



Attorney Docket No. MARLO-101 (501285.20101)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Mark R. Wilkinson

Serial No. : 10/055,542

Filed : January 23, 2002

For : SHAFT SEALING SYSTEM FOR A ROTARY MECHANICAL  
DEVICE

Group Art Unit : 3676

Examiner : Enoch E. Peavey

Confirmation No. : 8854

**RECEIVED**

**MAY 14 2004**

**GROUP 3600**

**DECLARATION OF MARK R. WILKINSON**  
**PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.131**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

I, MARK R. WILKINSON, the named inventor herein, hereby declare as follows:

1. I am the Mark R. Wilkinson identified as the inventor of the application. I hold a Bachelor of Science in General Business Finance/Mechanical Engineering from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

2. I am fully familiar with the application and the outstanding Office Action issued on January 16, 2004.

3. This Declaration is submitted in order to establish invention of the subject matter of claims 1-3, 5-9 and 12-17 prior to the effective date of Dziver, et al., on which all the rejections of the claims are based.

4. The newly cited Dziver application, published in February 6, 2003, is based on U.S. Application Serial No. 10/170,557 filed on June 13, 2002, and claims the benefit of